Application No. 10/521,952
Information Disclosure Statement Dated July 6, 2006
Attorney Docket No. 3824-050246

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Group Art Unit

2874

Confirmation No. 2294

Application No.

: 10/521,952

**Applicants** 

Jiangron QIU et al.

Filed

January 21, 2005

Title

FIBER ARRAY FOR OPTICAL

COMMUNICATION AND METHOD OF MANUFACTURING THE FIBER ARRAY

Examiner

Phan Th Palmer

Customer No.

28289

MAIL STOP AMENDMENT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicants hereby submit this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement together with a completed Form PTO/SB/08A and a copy of each reference cited along with an English-language Abstract thereof.

The foreign references listed on Form PTO/SB/08A were all cited in a Japanese Office Action dated April 7, 2006, in a counterpart Japanese application and are relevant for the reasons provided therein. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, along with an English-language translation thereof, is enclosed herewith.

The Japanese Office Action cited five references which are discussed hereinafter.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on date listed below.
Signature Sherle 07/06/2006  Date

{W0282704.1}

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Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. JP 64-044403 to Nakamoto et al. is directed to an optical fiber array having guide grooves formed by a laser beam and optical fibers filled in the guide grooves. This reference fails to teach or suggest that the accuracy of the center-to-center dimension between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm$  0.5  $\mu$ m, and the degree of parallelization in the groove length direction between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm$  0.1 degree.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. JP 08-019878 to Ogaki discloses a guide groove for an optical fiber formed by a laser beam. This reference also fails to teach or suggest that the accuracy of the center-to-center dimension between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm$  0.5  $\mu$ m, and the degree of parallelization in the groove length direction between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm$  0.1 degree.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. JP 2002-040293 to Kato et al. is directed to a ferrule for an optical fiber including a plurality of insertion holes for inserting optical fibers therein. The insertion holes are formed by a laser beam. While this reference suggests that the accuracy of the position of the insertion holes is within 0.05  $\mu$ m, it fails to teach or suggest that the degree of parallelization in the groove length direction between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm$  0.1 degree.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. JP 09-120014 to Ota et al. discloses an optical fiber array including a substrate having V-shaped guides for inserting optical fibers and a press plate for fixing the inserted optical fibers. This reference also suggests that the V-shaped guide is formed by a pulsed laser beam. However, this reference fails to teach or suggest the accuracy of the center-to-center dimension between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm$  0.5  $\mu m$ , and the degree of parallelization in the groove length direction between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm$  0.1 degree.

Japanese Patent Laid-Open Publication No. JP 2002-156548 is directed to a ferrule for an optical fiber including a plurality of insertion holes for inserting optical fibers therein. The inner walls of the insertion holes are subjected to an etching treatment. This reference also fails to teach or suggest that the accuracy of the center-to-center dimension between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm$  0.5  $\mu$ m, and the degree of parallelization {W0282704.1}

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in the groove length direction between the grooves adjacent to each other is within  $\pm\,0.1$  degree.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1), the undersigned hereby certifies that each item of information cited on the attached Form PTO/SB/08A was first cited in a communication mailed April 7, 2006, from the Japanese Patent Office in a counterpart Japanese application not more than three months prior to the filing of the accompanying Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement.

No fee is believed to be due for the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement as it is being submitted within three months of the date of the Japanese Office Action and includes a statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1). Nevertheless, the Commissioner for Patents is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required to Deposit Account No. 23-0650. One (1) original and two (2) copies of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement are enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

By Librard &

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PTO/SB/08A (08-00)

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Substitute for form		DISCLOS	URE	Complete if Known Application Number 10/521,952		
STATE	MENT BY	APPLIC	ANT	Filing Date First Named Inventor	January 21, 2005 Jiangron QIU et al. 2874	
(use	as many sheets as n	ecessary)		Group Art Unit Examiner Name	Phan Th Palmer	
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	U.S. P Docur	ment	Name of Patentee Applicant		Date of Publication of Cit	ted Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant
		Number Code <sup>2</sup>	Kind	of Cited Document		MM-DD-YYYY	Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
Examiner Initials	Cite No.1	Office <sup>3</sup>	Foreign Patent Document  Number <sup>4</sup>	Kind Code <sup>5</sup>	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T
	1	JP	2002-156548		Kyocera Corp	05-31-2002		
		JР	2002-040293		Kyocera Corp	02-06-2002		
-		JР	09-120014		NGK Insulators Ltd	05-06-1997		
	<u> </u>	JР	08-019878		Ricoh Co Ltd	01-23-1996		
	<b>†</b>	JP	64-044403		Fujitsu Ltd	02-16-1984		
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<sup>\*</sup>EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Unique citation designation number. <sup>2</sup>See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. <sup>3</sup>Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup>For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup>Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. <sup>6</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.